

SENATE—Thursday, October 11, 2001

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Faithful Father, on this day of remembrance of the infamous terrorist attack on our Nation one month ago, we hear the words of the Psalmist sounding in our souls, "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!"—Psalm 27:14. You alone are the source of our strength and courage. Continue to heal the aching hearts of those who lost loved ones and friends at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Dear Lord of comfort, we intercede for the families of the police and firefighters who died seeking to save others. We feel the incredible grief of those who endure loneliness now for those gallant people who were aboard the airplanes that were turned into missiles of destruction. All across our Nation people are gripped by fear of future attacks. Replace that panic with Your peace. Bolster our broken hearts with relentless resolve to confront and conquer terrorism. Bless the women and men of our armed services. Keep them safe as they press on to victory. Without Your help we cannot succeed; with Your power we shall not fail. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JACK REED led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. BYRD].

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 11, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. REED thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate resumes consideration of S. 1477, the aviation security bill. It is my understanding that the managers are expecting to clear some more amendments this morning and are working with other Members who have indicated they have amendments to this important legislation.

The first vote—on the Daschle-Carnahan amendment—will be later today. After we vote on that, Senators may expect other votes to occur this afternoon and into this evening as we make every effort to complete action on this important legislation today and then turn our attention today, we hope—and we really need to do this—to another important matter, the counterterrorism bill, on which a unanimous consent agreement has been reached.

Because of some very important matters that some Members have, some of which are spiritual in nature, I ask unanimous consent that the previously scheduled cloture vote on the Daschle-Carnahan amendment occur at 1:35 p.m. today and that the other provisions remain in effect, with the time from 12:35 until 1:35 to be divided in the usual form.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as Senator HOLLINGS has indicated, he also believes we can finish this legislation. I just completed a conversation with him. He has worked on this legislation, along with Senator McCAIN, for so long. We are anxious and happy we are on this legislation. It is important for the country. We ask everyone's cooperation. If they have an amendment, come and work on the amendment. In regard to this legislation, everyone should know we are not going to wait around for people to come in with amendments. If we arrive at a point where we have no amendments, we will move on to complete consideration of the bill in its entirety.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

AVIATION SECURITY ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1477, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1447) to improve aviation security, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Daschle (for Carnahan) amendment No. 1855, to provide assistance for employees who are separated from employment as a result of reductions in service by air carriers, and closures of airports, caused by terrorist actions or security measures.

Gramm amendment No. 1859 (to amendment No. 1855), to provide for the exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources of the Arctic Coastal Plains.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, we all realize this morning that a month has passed since the disaster of September 11, and we still are confronted with the need for airline security, as the headlines in Roll Call state, "Airport Firms Form Alliance"; as well as, "Baggage Screening Companies Take Case to the Hill."

So one month after this fanatical killing of 5,000 to 6,000 Americans, thousands more casualties, and as many as 10,000 children left without a parent, some without 2 parents, we are being delayed by the contractors and the lobbyists. One of them particularly, cited in this case, has banded together in a lobbying drive that so far has succeeded—Argenbright.

There is also an article in the Miami Herald published Thursday, September 13 about their efforts. I ask unanimous consent that the article in full be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Miami Herald, Sept. 13, 2001]

COMPANY PLEADED GUILTY TO PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS

(By Tyler Bridges)

ATLANTA.—The security company that provides the checkpoint workers at the airports breached by Tuesday's hijackers has been cited at least twice for security lapses. In its worst infraction, Atlanta-based Argenbright Security pleaded guilty last year to allowing untrained employees, some with criminal backgrounds, to operate checkpoints at